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From the Office of the Director of Health

Influenza Vaccination Efforts Recognized with Certificate

The Show-Me Adult Immunization Coalition recognizes the Springfield-Greene County Health Department with a Certificate of Appreciation for their efforts to provide influenza vaccine to the most vulnerable individuals in Greene County during the 2004-2005 influenza season.

The Coalition commends the health department for going "beyond the call of duty" in efforts to set up community clinics, educate the public on vaccination availability, vaccination eligibility and disease prevention.

"Our community responded to the 2004 flu vaccine shortage by pooling available vaccine to assure that individuals at high risk had the opportunity to receive a vaccination," says health department director, Kevin Gipson. "Community partners provided manpower, financial resources, technical expertise, leadership and vision to ensure the most vulnerable in our community were served."

The collaborative effort between the Greene County Medical Society, Doctor's Hospital, CoxHealth, St. John's Regional Health Center, Southwest Missouri State University, the health department and other agencies allowed more than 5,000 high-risk individuals to receive a flu vaccination in 2004.

The Community High Risk Flu Shot Clinic Coalition in Springfield met last week to begin planning community flu vaccination clinics for the 2005-2006 flu season.

For more information, contact:

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